

Dear FCC,

The Consolidation and manipulation of news sources has always had an impact on politics. The Spanish-American war was brought about in no small part by Yellow journalism. For years after this debacle of public trust journalism has made great efforts to remain impartial even in the face of journalists superiors. That has ended because of the consolidation of the news media. Journalists can no longer stand up to their superiors and know that the next job is just around the corner.

With the Sinclair Broadcasting groups' decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary-drama, that doesn't have any facts accountability, days before the election it is clear that they are trying to keep their monopolies going.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Thank you for your time,
-Shawn Hoose